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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE 15	Jul 83
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FORM NO. 241 REPLACES FORM 36-8 (47)

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15 July 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: David B. Low

National Intelligence Officer at Large

FROM:

Hans Heymann, Jr.

National Intelligence Officer at Large

SUBJECT:

Long-Range Planning Process for the Intelligence Community

In response to <u>your 1 July 1983</u> request for contributions to Phase I of the subject process, I worked up the following issue for your consideration:

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## Issue: The Third World Nuclear Threat

The process of developing and acquiring nuclear weapons capabilities long underway in a number of countries in the 1970s and 1980s, and

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in the 1980s and 1990s) is likely to culminate in the emergence of both direct and indirect threats to US security interests in the next decade and beyond. Direct threats, in the sense that in regional conflicts, nuclear weapons could be used against the US, its military forces, or its allies. Indirect threats, in the sense that the transition from non-weapon to weapon state is profoundly destabilizing — i.e., the mere threat of imminent acquisition of nuclear weapons by Third World states is likely to arouse the anxieties of their neighbors, rivals, or adversaries and to precipitate violent counteraction that could easily escalate to wider war. Both the intelligence and the policy communities will have to devote more of their attention to anticipating and coping with such contingencies. The difficulty of coping with these, however, will be compounded by an international environment in which the established consensus on non-proliferation (NPT, IAEA, supplier country guidelines) may have broken down with an attendant lapse of restraints against nuclear technology diffusion.

Hans Heymann, Jr.

cc: C/NIC

VCs/NIC NIO/AL-Ford

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